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GOVERNMENT'S POLICY CRITICIZED IN COMMONS

Earle Loreburn and Lansdowne Debate the Government's Policy in the Dardanelles and the Saloniki Expedition—Public Should Know Says Loreburn

WAS IT UNPREPAREDNESS OR WAS IT INDECISION?

Lansdowne Retorted Kitchener Attends all Cabinet Meetings And it is Impossible to Suppose Plans Would be Influenced by Civilians

LONDON, Oct. 27.—Earle Loreburn asked in the Commons whether the despatch of troops to Salonika had been determined upon and with the approval of naval and military advisers, whether the Government could give an assurance that full provision had been made for communications to this force for supplying men and material to the satisfaction of both naval and military experts.

Loreburn said he understood the Government's desire was the matter should be debated at the present time, but there was every reason for asking that question.

"We are disappointed in the Dardanelles enterprise," said Loreburn, and he added he did not know whether this enterprise had commenced with or without the advice of naval and military authorities. He could not help asking whether this new venture would be a repetition of that greatest danger from which this country could suffer which the speaker said was unpreparedness and indecision.

Lord Lansdowne explained there were moments when it was not in the public interest that questions relating to the war should be freely discussed in Parliament. The effect on both their Allies and their enemies had to be considered, he declared, and he could assure Lord Loreburn that neither the present Government, nor in any government of which he had been a member, had it been a practice or a habit to allow the amateur strategists to impose plans upon professional advisers of the Government. With the present Government, Lord Lansdowne continued, it was unlikely that anything of the kind could occur. Earl Kitchener was present at every Cabinet meeting and it was impossible to suppose that he would allow himself to be deflected from his course by pressure from his civilian colleagues; apart from that, the speaker added that the procedure followed by the Committee Council had given far greater opportunities to military and naval experts to assert themselves and make their views known.

"The Cabinet, as a whole consider both naval, military and political aspects of the case, so Ministers and their advisers took account of both sides of the problem, but whatever particular views were given by the naval and military advisers, the ultimate responsibility for decision on them must rest with the Government.

As regards the Salonika expedition, the Marquis said: "I cannot enter into such apprehensions as possess Earl Loreburn. I can understand, having before him our commitment to the Western theatre of war, the position in which we find ourselves on the Gallipoli Peninsula, our interests in

Lansdowne Says Serbians Can't Last Long

LONDON, Oct. 26.—Reply to a question by Earl Loreburn in the House of Lords this afternoon, as to the progress of the campaign in the Balkans, Lansdowne, the Unionist leader, who holds a seat in the Cabinet, without portfolio, said:

"I must say with great regret, I am afraid we must admit that the progress of the campaign in Northern Serbia has been such as to render it highly improbable that the Serbian army will be able to withstand for any great length of time, the attacks to which she is exposed from the Austro-German forces in the north, aided by the stab in the back which Serbia is receiving at the hands of Bulgaria."

Couldn't Trust Bulgars to Face The Russians

LONDON, Oct. 26.—A report that Turkish troops are being concentrated at Burgas, Varna and other points on the Black Sea coast of Bulgaria is reiterated in a despatch received here today from Athens.

The despatch says the Turks are to oppose the Russian attempts to land troops, having replaced the Bulgarians, because it was feared the latter could not be counted on to resist the Russians.

A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Co. says that five thousand German soldiers from Constantinople are replacing the Bulgarians at points on the Black Sea. The literal defence of the coast has been entrusted to Germany.

Egypt and other possessions in the Empire, and which it should be borne in mind that it is profoundly distasteful to him that the latter should be complicated by our entering into new entanglements in a new sphere of war."

Earl Loreburn, interrupting said: "I did not say that. What I asked was, if you had naval and military opinion to justify you in your decision."

Lord Lansdowne said "I quite understand that Lord Loreburn should dislike the idea of what might be described as this further effort on our part at this time, when we are making so many efforts in different parts of the world, that under such circumstances British forces have been sent to Salonika.

"I should like to recall the position during the month of September the Central Powers made no progress on the Western front. For a long time they had been successfully attacked and pushed back at several points. On the Russian front, their advance, overwhelming at first, received a serious check. The Italians are pressing their offensive and in the minor theatres of war, in Mesopotamia for example, success is resting with our arms.

"That being the situation, the Central Powers naturally looked about to discover some new direction in which to seek for a decision satisfactory to themselves, and their

Says Greeks May Carry Neutrality Idea Too Far

NEW YORK, Oct. 26.—A news agency despatch from London this afternoon, says that Britain's offer of Cyprus to Greece lapsed because Greece has not seen its way to helping Serbia.

Foreign Minister Grey told the Commons to-day that a break between Greece and the Allies, hinted at by the Central News to-day, was a possibility, and the suggestion was made that the Greeks might carry their neutrality ideas so far as to interfere with the Allied operations in the Balkans.

A Note handed by a representative of the Allies to the Greek Government is said to contain information that a break may occur if Greece takes such a stand or persists in her refusal to come to the aid of Serbia.

The Cabinet held a long session to discuss the Balkan situation and the report of Sir Ian Hamilton on the situation in the Dardanelles, to-day.

Premier Asquith was so much better to-day that he was able to keep his engagement and attend the Cabinet meeting.

Premier Fisher Has Accepted London Post

MELBOURNE, Oct. 26.—Andrew Fisher, Premier, has accepted the High Commissioner for Australia in London, to succeed Sir Geo. Reid.

Fisher has recommended for his successor as Premier, William Morris Hughes, Attorney-General in the Fisher Cabinet.

SMALLER CABINET SUGGESTED

LONDON, Oct. 27.—Lord Lansdowne in referring to the recall of Sir Ian Hamilton from the Dardanelles said: "General Munro, who arrived at the Dardanelles to-day, has been instructed to report as soon as possible his opinion on all aspects of the case. Lord Loreburn," said Lansdowne, "need have no apprehension on this or any other matter of the kind. The Government is not likely to be led into precipitate action owing to some hurried impulse or some vague sentiment to achieve its object. At every step the Government will take the best naval and military advice obtainable, and that advice will have reference not only to new enterprises, but to all subsidiary questions with regard to safeguarding communications and supply of men and material."

"Lord Kitchener," said Lord Cromer, "had been singularly parsimonious, in his utterances in the Lords. Speaking candidly, his statements never contained much more than what we have already read in the daily papers. We want something which will show that there is a real grasp on the situation, and be told the general outline of what is being done about it."

Earl Cromer dissociated himself from those who wished a change of Government or strongly advocated a smaller Cabinet.

Lord Loreburn, who expressed himself dissatisfied with Lord Lansdowne's answer, supported, as did other members of the House, a smaller Executive, and in reply, Lord Curzon said Asquith had this matter under consideration. Lord Lansdowne said, personally, he favored a change.

choice fell, as it was not likely to fall on any great attempt to make good in South-western Europe, through Bulgaria, to threaten our forces on Gallipoli. Constantinople, perhaps Egypt, to say nothing of vaster aspirations which perhaps lay behind that great project, became doubly attractive for the moment when, most unfortunately, Bulgaria threw her influence on their side. There was one obstacle, only one, to that project. The key of the situation lay in the eastern corner of Serbia. We found Serbia threatened by a formidable concentration of

OFFICIAL CASUALTY LIST

FIRST NEWFOUNDLAND REGIMENT

OCTOBER 26, 1915.
1369—Lance-Corporal Alonzo John Gallishaw, 16 Bannerman Street, St. John's. Dangerously wounded on Oct. 23rd.

J. R. BENNETT, Colonial Secretary.

OFFICIAL

LONDON, Oct. 26.—In France the enemy succeeded in re-occupying some portions of the central trenches of the salient lost in Champagne.

Near Riga, six violent German attacks have been repulsed and fierce attacks beyond Iloukst also repulsed. On the Oginski canal and at Chartorysk, counter-attacks have been repulsed, and at the latter point over a thousand prisoners captured.

The Italian offensive continues successfully.

In Serbia, near Stronmitza, the French have repulsed a Bulgarian attack. The pressure in the north continues.

German reports admit the sinking of the cruiser Prinz Adalbert off Libau, and only a small portion of the crew rescued.—BONAR LAW.

LONDON, Oct. 25 (official).—A prisoner who was tried on a serious charge of espionage, was found guilty and sentenced to death by being shot. The prisoner appealed to the Court of Criminal Appeal, which, on October 18th, dismissed the appeal.

The sentence was carried out by the military authorities this morning.

LONDON, Oct. 26 (official).—The British transport Marquette has been torpedoed in the Aegean Sea. It is understood that only ninety-nine of the personnel of the vessel have been unaccounted for. No details.

PARIS, Oct. 26.—Quiet prevailed along the Franco-Bulgarian front yesterday, said a Salonika despatch under date of Monday, Oct. 25th, to the Havas News Agency.

The French are fortifying the region they occupied to the east of the railroad between Gievelli and Krivolak.

The Bulgarians are masters of the Krivolak-Vranya section.

The Germans are pressing their advance on the Danube front, but progress is slow and difficult.

Former Bank Mgr. Released from Pen So As to Enlist

OTTAWA, Oct. 26.—John D. G. McKinnon, the Hamilton bank manager, now in Kingston Penitentiary, will be released to-morrow and permitted to enlist for the front, the Governor-General having decided, to exercise clemency in his case.

McKinnon, who was managed of a branch of the Union Bank, was sentenced about a year ago to three years in the Kingston Penitentiary on a charge of embezzling \$12,000.

All kinds of raw furs bought by Nfld. Exchange, at 276 Water St.

Says Greek King Bound to Kaiser By Solemn Pledge

LONDON, Oct. 26.—A cable to the Herald says S. J. Dillon telegraphs from Rome to the Daily Telegraph that he knows for an absolute fact, that while the Greek Cabinet is under no real obligations to the Central Empires, King Constantine is bound to the Kaiser by a solemn pledge to maintain neutrality toward Germany, the Kaiser agreeing to give Greece territorial compensations after the war if she does not cast her lot with the Allies. To do him justice, says Dr. Dillon, King Constantine, it must be said has refused, despite threats, to draw the sword on the side of Germany.

Dr. Dillon is convinced that if the Allies send a big army to save Serbia, Roumania, which also has been promised compensation by the Kaiser for her neutrality, will also support the Quadruple Entente, but if the support of Greece is needed, the Entente will have to use their navy to overcome the scruples or Greece's pro-German king.

The only effect of Great Britain's offer of Cyprus has been to make King Constantine, through M. Zaimis, the Premier, more determined to abstain from assisting the Allies, but if the Allies send a big army to Serbia, German conspiracy will fail, and both Greece and Roumania will then support the Entente, but the relieving force must be a big, very big army.

Von Buelow To Submit Peace Terms

LONDON, Oct. 26.—A report reached here today that Prince von Buelow former German Chancellor, will shortly submit to President Wilson and King Alfonso of Spain outlines of conditions on which Germany might be disposed to discuss terms of peace.

INVADERS MAKING PROGRESS

London, Oct. 27.—Serbian troops have been gallantly holding the little northeastern corner where Austro-Germans-Bulgarian armies about to join up are being slowly pushed back as the pressure upon them becomes greater. Marquis Lansdowne, Minister without portfolio in the British Cabinet, regretfully announced to the Lords to-night that he feared they could not much longer withstand the attacks. In fact all along the northeastern frontiers of Serbia the invaders are making steady progress although at a great cost. The Serbians, now that they have reached the hills, are making them pay heavy for every mile covered. It is only south where the Fench have joined hands with the Serbians that the Bulgarians are being here, French and Serbians are entrenching themselves awaiting reinforcements which they hope will enable them to drive the Bulgarians out of Macedonia.

Britain and France, according to Lansdowne in the Lords, are despatching a strong force in the Near East and are only waiting a report from General Monro, the new British Commander at Gallipoli Peninsula; other military naval advisers will decide which at point they will be used. Britain and France, Lansdowne said, has taken up the challenge of the central powers in Near East as elsewhere and were preparing to strike blow for blow, and hoped eventually to receive support from Greece and Roumania, although they were not depending upon them.

Sir Edward Grey, British Foreign Minister, to-day told the Commons that Britain's offer to cede Cyprus to Greece had lapsed. Greece had not fulfilled her treaty obligations to Serbia.

The British Minister at Athens is reported to be making representations to Greece with respect to the use of Salonika as a base for

LANSDOWNE EXPLAINS SALONIKA LANDING

Lord Lansdowne Explains Why Allied Forces Were Landed at Saloniki—Allies Believed Greece Would Fulfill Her Treaty Obligations With Serbians

WOULD HAVE HAD SUPPORT OF VENEZELOS

Further British Forces For Balkan Campaign but Just Where These Troops Will Go Depends on the Military Situation of the Times

LONDON, Oct. 26.—Lord Lansdowne in the Commons, in replying to questions regarding the policy of the Government said:

"Serbia was bound to Greece by geographical propinquity, by common interests in this war and by treaty obligations, moreover it was only through Grecian territory that help could possibly reach Serbia. It was only by the use of great force that a base could be provided for in the circumstances the good-will of Greece was of first importance to us. We had at that time every reason to feel that we had that good-will. Venezelos was still in power. At his instance we understood he was to provide force for the purpose of enabling Greece to fulfill her treaty obligations to Serbia. It was under such circumstances that we sent such troops as were available to Salonika. It was a small force, because only a small force could be collected at the time. The French Government, on their side, despatched a force which is now on the spot, and which apparently at this moment is engaged with the Bulgarians on the eastern frontier of Serbia. At the same time a larger force was prepared for service in South-eastern Europe. Transports were taken out for the purpose

of conveying it to its destination. I suggest these steps, though incomplete no doubt, were taken with great promptitude. They were the only ones which could be taken to relieve the position in Serbia and they were taken after full deliberation with naval and military advisers.

The British force at Salonika is thirteen thousand, in round numbers, and may be regarded as a precursor to a larger force, which has been put under orders. At the same time the use to which that force will be put, must depend on the situation when it arrives at the scene.

"Events have moved rapidly in that part of the world. There have been two quite recent developments which profoundly affected the military and practical situation. First was the deliberate decision of the Greek Government that her treaty engagements did not require her to go to the rescue of Serbia in the present momentous crisis, and the other is the progress of the campaign in Northern Serbia."

Lord Lansdowne, after giving some details of the position of the Serbian armies, expressed the opinion as to the outlook for Serbia, which is quoted in the beginning of this despatch. He said that military plans must depend upon the military situation when the reinforcements arrive. Upon this point the Allies are of one mind. The military and naval advisers of Britain and France will consult and until these consultations are concluded I cannot say for what purpose the British forces will be used."

New Defences Against Zep. Raids Now Complete

LONDON, Oct. 26.—The new defences of London against attacks by Zeppelins are gradually assuming shape, according to a statement made this afternoon by Sir Percy Scott, who is in charge of this work.

In a statement read at the inquest held in the case of a Londoner killed during a Zeppelin attack, Sir Percy said, the number of guns for defence against airships has been recently increased and further improvements as to their position, number and character are in contemplation.

He asked the Treasury Solicitor, who read the statement, to warn the public to seek protection when Zeppelin raids were made, because of the danger of being struck by fragments of shells from aircraft guns.

Serbs in Danger But Allies Alive

SALONIKA, Oct. 26.—The situation in Serbia is grave, of course, but it is in no wise desperate, said a French officer. The Austrians and Germans have advanced less than 12 miles on the Danube front, notwithstanding their numerical superiority, and the line now held by the Bulgarians may prove to be perilous to them. You may say the French are fully alive to the situation and are not at all discouraged.

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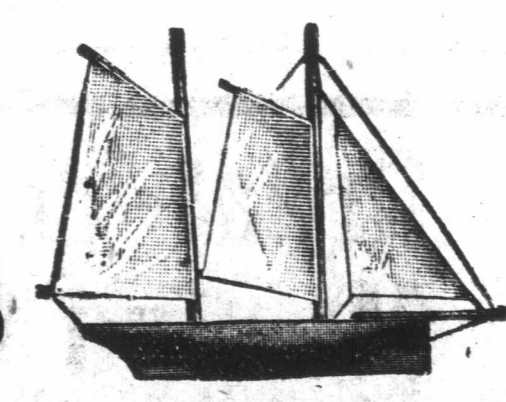
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Great Prohibition Meeting for Men!
At the CASINO THEATRE, on Wednesday Evening, October 27th.
Chairman: Hon. Robert Watson.
Speakers: Hon. J. Harvey, Hon. J.A. Robinson, J.F. Downey, M.H.A., H.E. Cowan and J.M. Devine, Esqs.
Doors open at 7.30. Chair to be taken at 8 o'clock. Admission Free. All are Welcome.
ALEX. A. PARSONS,
Hon. Sec'y Gen. Committee.

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